

CHINA



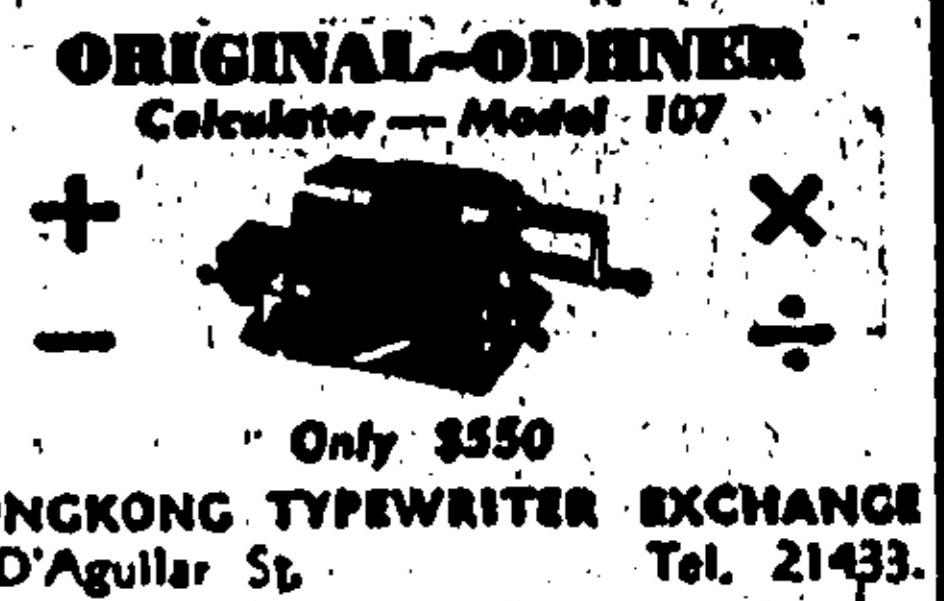
MAIL

No. 35806

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1954.

Price 20 Cents

THE WEATHER: Light S. or SW winds; cloudy, with local light rain or showers; continuing warm.



COMMENT OF THE DAY

Way Cleared

So far as the Western delegates are concerned the second week of the Geneva conference opens with an even more urgent demand for unity than when the conferees originally assembled together, and it will be necessary for the Big Three to close their ranks if they are to achieve what is desirable in the delicate negotiations due to begin on Indo-China and Korea. So far, the Western delegates have been acting along independent lines and all too clearly are at variance as to what represents the proper policy for dealing with the complex problems before the Geneva conference. Mr Foster Dulles remained adamant in his demand for public approval by Britain and France of his United Action proposition, and when that was not forthcoming he visibly edged himself away from the unofficial talks which developed between M. Bidault, Mr Eden and Mr Chou En-lai, and surrendered to his colleagues the initiative in the procedural discussions. Since then also his personal position has been compromised by the sudden announcement by President Eisenhower that he agreed no decision should be taken about a Southeast Asia alliance or intervention in Indo-China until the results of the Geneva conference were known. This cut the ground completely away from Mr Dulles who had shown no inclination to compromise on his formula for bringing the Indo-China problem to head. Thus with the Big Three in disagreement on a fundamental issue, political commentators and diplomatic observers have been variously led to describe the American attitude as too tough, the British attitude as too soft, and that of France as weak.

New US Efforts For SE Asia Security Alliance SEEK TO CREATE SOLID RING AGAINST ANY MORE RED AGGRESSION

Geneva, May 2.

The United States today pushed emergency talks for a security alliance to halt the Communist drive in Southeast Asia as the Indo-China conflict mounted to a bloody climax on the Dien Bien Phu battlefield.

While all signs pointed to an early beginning of Indo-China peace talks at the Geneva conference, the United States sped efforts to create a deep solid ring against further Red aggression.

The drive was sparked by these moves:

1. A special session of the ANZUS — Australia, New Zealand and the United States — Treaty Council under the chairmanship of the United States Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles. Mr Dulles called the meeting with the Foreign Ministers of the two other Pacific powers on the eve of his return to the United States to discuss the mounting military crisis in Indo-China and to urge swift completion of the Southeast Asia pact.

2. A close and confidential discussion of the treaty plan last night between Mr Dulles, the Under-Secretary of State, Mr Walter Bedell Smith, and the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden.

3. Talks going on in Indo-China between US representatives and the governments of the three Associated States.

The United States also has discussed the plan with neighbouring Thailand, standing next in the possible path of the Communist drive, and the Philippines.

The urgency of the ANZUS Council meeting was underlined by the fact that the official communiqué said it was held under Article 3 of the treaty.

This provides, "The parties will consult together whenever in the opinion of any one of them the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the parties is threatened in the Pacific."

In addition to Mr Dulles, the meeting was attended by the Australian Minister for External Affairs, Mr Richard Casey, and the New Zealand Minister for External Affairs, Mr Clifton Webb.

Meanwhile, an Indo-China ceasefire plan by regional stages was proposed by Thailand.

The United States' moves for a security set-up were pressed

for External Affairs, Mr Clifton Webb.

Mr Casey told the United Press yesterday he "generally favoured" some such a security organisation.

Informed Western sources described the meeting as one of "extreme importance" and they said it had been specially called under the immediate impact of the Indo-China military situation.

Mr Dulles was accompanied to the meeting by the Under-Secretary of State, Mr Walter Bedell Smith, who brought him from Washington the latest appraisal of the military position from the National Security Council's meeting on Thursday.

The United States' moves for a security set-up were pressed

for External Affairs, Mr Clifton Webb.

2. A ceasefire in stages, region by region, starting with Laos and Cambodia, followed by the Red River delta and finally the rest of Vietnam.

3. Attempt to reach a "modus vivendi" with the Communist Vietminh rebels by negotiation at the conference table.

4. No partition.

Moves to get the Indo-China peace talks rolling were speeded up as the conference entered its second week and the US Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, prepared to leave for home tomorrow.

The general debate on Korea will resume tomorrow after a two-day break and then probably be terminated. But both plenary sessions and secret across-the-table bargaining merely showed up the complete deadlock.

The real spotlight was focused on Indo-China, where the Vietminh launched what appeared to be their final assault against the symbolic fortress.

Amid the last preparatory stages for the Indo-China talks, the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Nguyen Quoc Dinh, arrived here yesterday carrying the terms on which his country's Chief of State, Bao Dai, would participate.

Prince Wan, one of the conference's three chairmen, told the United Press the plan provided for:

PROBABLE ALLIED STAND

Paris reports quoted the Rod Chinese news agency as saying he had been replaced temporarily by Pham Van Dong. Dong is known to the French as he was a member of the Vietnamese delegations with which they negotiated at the Dien Bien Phu battlefield.

Explaining Thailand's plan, Prince Wan told the United Press: "I am against partition. But no line exists in Korea. We should seek a ceasefire in Indo-China in the areas where fighting is in progress, stage by stage, and then seek a modus vivendi with the Vietminh."

"There is no definite fighting line as there was in Korea — no line on which to call for a ceasefire. My idea would be to call for a ceasefire in stages, region by region, starting with Laos and Cambodia, then the Red River delta and finally the rest of Vietnam."

They also were believed to oppose partition, although Pre-

Minister for the Associated States, in an inn at St Julian, a French frontier village about eight miles from Geneva.

In the evening he drove into Geneva and conferred for two hours with the French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, at the latter's lakeside villa. He then met Mr Dulles and Mr Anthony Eden. Tomorrow a final meeting with all three Western Foreign Ministers together was scheduled.

After that, barring last-minute hitches, the French would inform the Soviets that everything was set and the date for opening the Indo-China talks probably would be announced.

The Russians were reported to have sent out invitations already to the Communist Vietminh rebels. Three members of their delegation were said to be in Geneva staying with the Red Chinese delegation.

A major obstacle has been the reluctance of the Bao Dai representatives to sit down on a basis of equality with the Vietminh. But the French were confident that a face-saving formula had now been found. The French were encouraged, too, by Communist reports that the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Hong Minh Giem, is sick and has been replaced by a man believed to be less intransigent against France.

He conferred at length with M. Marc Jacquel, French

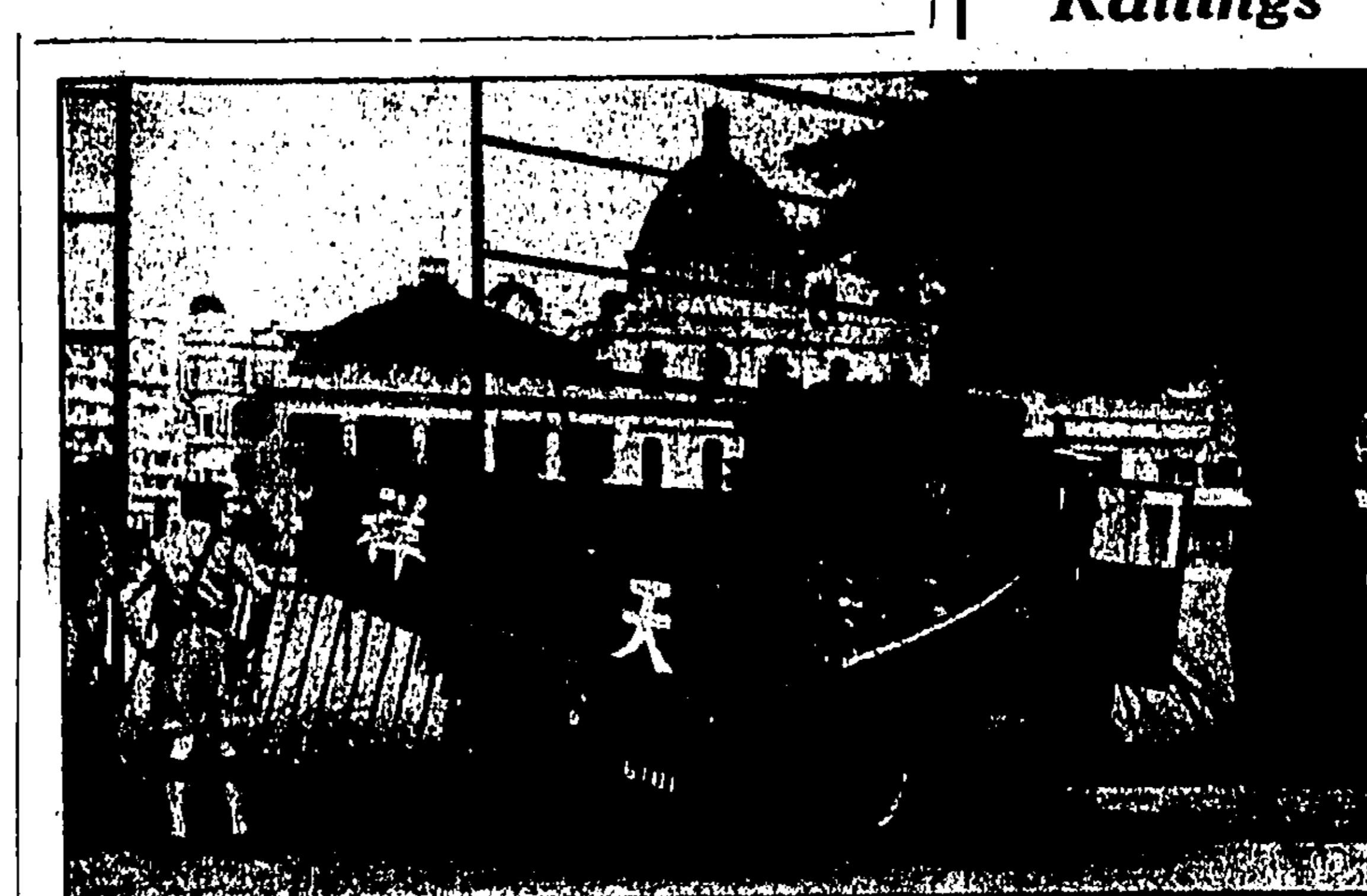
sident Eisenhauer last week appeared to indicate he might eventually settle for such a plan as a last resort.

However, France's bargaining position obviously was weakened hourly by events on the Dien Bien Phu battlefield.

Explaining Thailand's plan, Prince Wan told the United Press: "I am against partition. But no line exists in Korea. We should seek a ceasefire in Indo-China in the areas where fighting is in progress, stage by stage, and then seek a modus vivendi with the Vietminh."

"There is no definite fighting line as there was in Korea — no line on which to call for a ceasefire. My idea would be to call for a ceasefire in stages, region by region, starting with Laos and Cambodia, then the Red River delta and finally the rest of Vietnam."

(Continued on back page, Col. 2)



Lorry Hits Railings

Fate Of Fortress In Balance

Savage Fighting At Dien Bien Phu

Paris, May 2.

The fate of Dien Bien Phu hung precariously in the balance today as the Communists seized three strongpoints after eight hours of "human wave" attacks and drove a dangerous breach into a fourth.

Reports from the battlefield recived here said the Vietminh had advanced more than 100 yards in their third massive assault on the beleaguered fortress and fierce fighting was raging all round the perimeter.

Communist General Vo Nguyen Giap broke the semi-lull last night when he threw in his men against the two and a half mile square redoubt which has resisted for more than seven weeks against overwhelming odds.

Under a blistering artillery and mortar barrage, the Vietminh forces hurled themselves against the barbed wire defences. After five and a half hours of bitter combat, often hand to hand, three strongpoints had been breached.

General Christian De Castries ordered immediate counter-attacks after each assault. But by dawn, the Vietminh were masters of three strongpoints and a breach had been forced towards the centre of the southern outpost, Sabine, lying isolated three miles from the main fortress.

The reports said six strong points of about 20 making up the whole of the Dien Bien Phu defence system received simultaneously the full force of the Vietminh attack.

WITHIN 600 YARDS

The most advanced elements were now within 600 yards of General De Castries' Command Post in the heart of the complex system of trenches, dugouts, outposts and minefields.

The Vietminh, who had thrown several regiments into the battle, were not letting up under pressure, but the weary defenders were contesting every yard with bayonets, knives and grenades.

The Rock has its own municipal incinerator, but Spanish pig keepers buy food from hotels there.

Madrid newspapers today said that four persons were killed and 31 injured and at least 365 homes were damaged in a series of tornadoes that ripped through five Mid-Western States on Saturday.

THE RED CROSS REPORTEDLY ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY

Red Cross officials said most of the storms were minor but they were more widespread than any in the past three years.

Lord Justice Denning added that as far as British public opinion stood at present "it would, perhaps, not be proper to abolish" the death penalty.

Lord Justice Denning, who is an expert on divorce matters, also spoke about adultery—"or infidelity, or misconduct as soft spoken folk call it."

Britain, he feared, had unfortunately reached a position where adultery was considered a matter of little moment.

It was supposed to be the private concern of the party and should not tell against him in any way.

"It is no bar to advancement in any of the offices of the state, high or low, whereas any other form of stealing would mean the end of a career," he added.

Arkansas — seven counties, one injured, three homes destroyed, 32 damaged.

Missouri—three counties, at least one injured. No reports on homes destroyed or damaged.

Lord Justice Denning also suggested that the Church should allow the remarriage in church of an innocent party after divorce. — China Mail Special.

Tornadoes And Storms Sweep Texas

Chicago, May 2.

New tornadoes and storms swept Texas for the third straight day today and violent weather swept into the Middle West. The storms have killed seven persons and injured scores.

An unconfirmed tornado was reported near West Mansfield, Ohio, 45 miles northwest of Columbus and two or three twisters were seen in Lake Michigan, six miles northeast of Gary, Indiana.

Tornado warnings were posted for sections of the Middle West.

The storms continued a week-end outbreak of violent weather. At least 49 twisters struck in the South, Southwest and Mid-West on Friday and yesterday.

The Red Cross reported today that four persons were killed and 31 injured and at least 365 homes were damaged in a series of tornadoes that ripped through five Mid-Western States on Saturday.

RECORD SET IN TORNADOES

Red Cross officials said most of the storms were minor but they were more widespread than any in the past three years.

Lord Justice Denning added that as far as British public opinion stood at present "it would, perhaps, not be proper to abolish" the death penalty.

Lord Justice Denning, who is an expert on divorce matters, also spoke about adultery—"or infidelity, or misconduct as soft spoken folk call it."

It was supposed to be the private concern of the party and should not tell against him in any way.

"It is no bar to advancement in any of the offices of the state, high or low, whereas any other form of stealing would mean the end of a career," he added.

Arkansas — seven counties, one injured, three homes destroyed, 32 damaged.

Missouri—three counties, at least one injured. No reports on homes destroyed or damaged.

Lord Justice Denning also suggested that the Church should allow the remarriage in church of an innocent party after divorce. — China Mail Special.

Arabs Slain By Israeli Patrol

Tel Aviv, May 2.

Two Arabs were killed and one wounded when an Israeli patrol clashed with infiltrators from the Egyptian-held Gaza strip last Friday, an Israeli Army spokesman said here today.

The infiltrators included five men who took up observation near the Faqha-Beresheth Highway to observe Israeli army traffic, the spokesman said.

He added that fire was opened by Israel on the Arab reconnaissance patrol. — France-Press.

MAU MAU ESCAPE ATTEMPT FOILED

Nairobi, May 2.

An armed Maus gang tried to break through a cordon of British troops in a street in the Asian quarter of Nairobi. Asian home guards captured two of the gang and a third was shot dead by an African constable. Troops and police rounded up 2,119 Kikuyus, Embos and Meru tribesmen in a raid on the Asian quarter.

After an on-the-spot grounding, 1,410 were detained for further investigation. — Reuters.

ENGLISH CHANNEL RESCUE

Paris, May 2.

The 5,034-ton French cargo ship Fort Dauphin cast anchor off Dieppe this afternoon, with six Royal Air Force men who escaped when the British yacht Sea Lion capsized during a 55-mile an hour gale in the English Channel yesterday.

The Fort Dauphin abandoned the steamer for a seventh man from the Sea Lion, which overturned 20 miles northeast of Cherbourg. The yacht was last seen drifting toward Le Havre last night. She left Cherbourg on Wednesday for Alderney in the Channel Islands. All men aboard were from the Royal Air Force Transport Command at Upavon, Wiltshire. — Reuters.

SUNBEAM TALBOT 90 Performance Plus



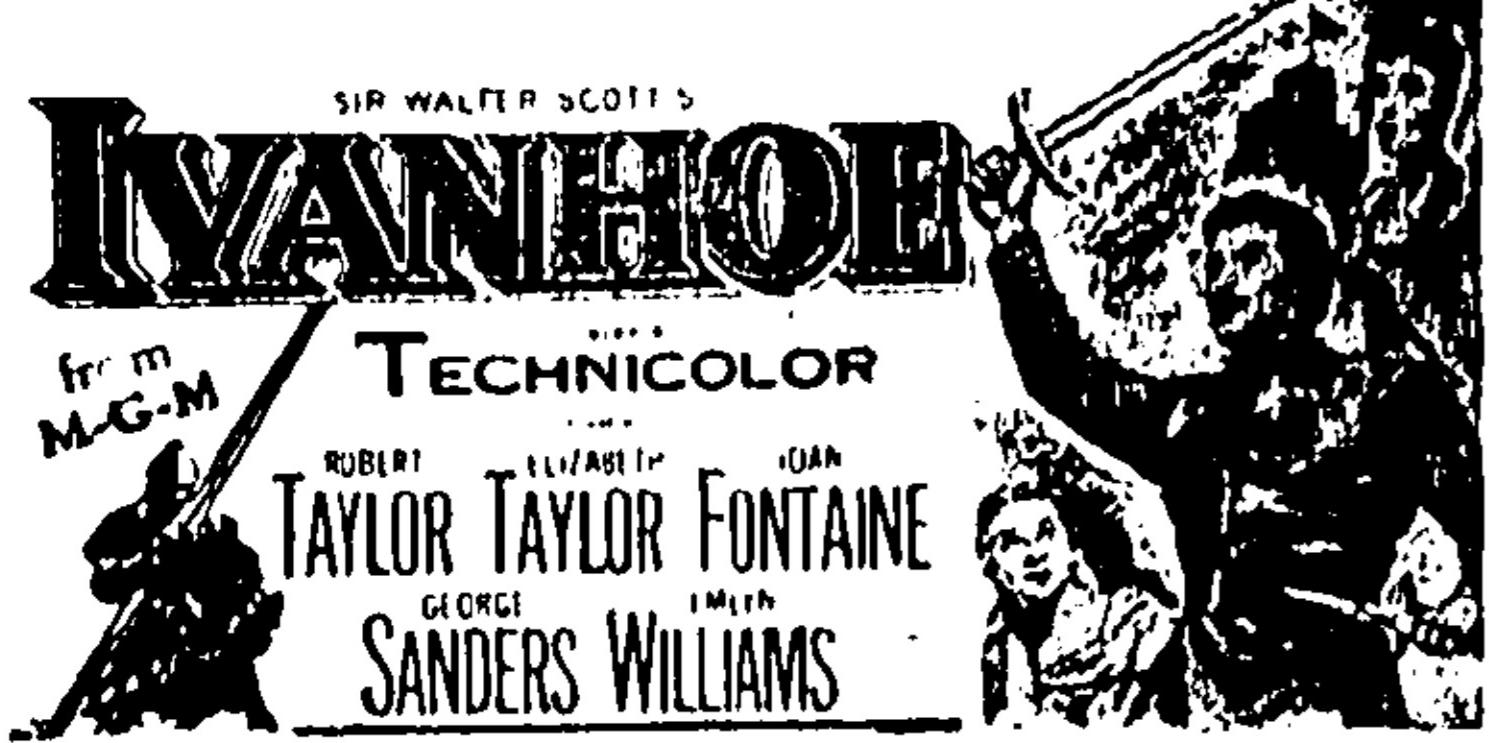
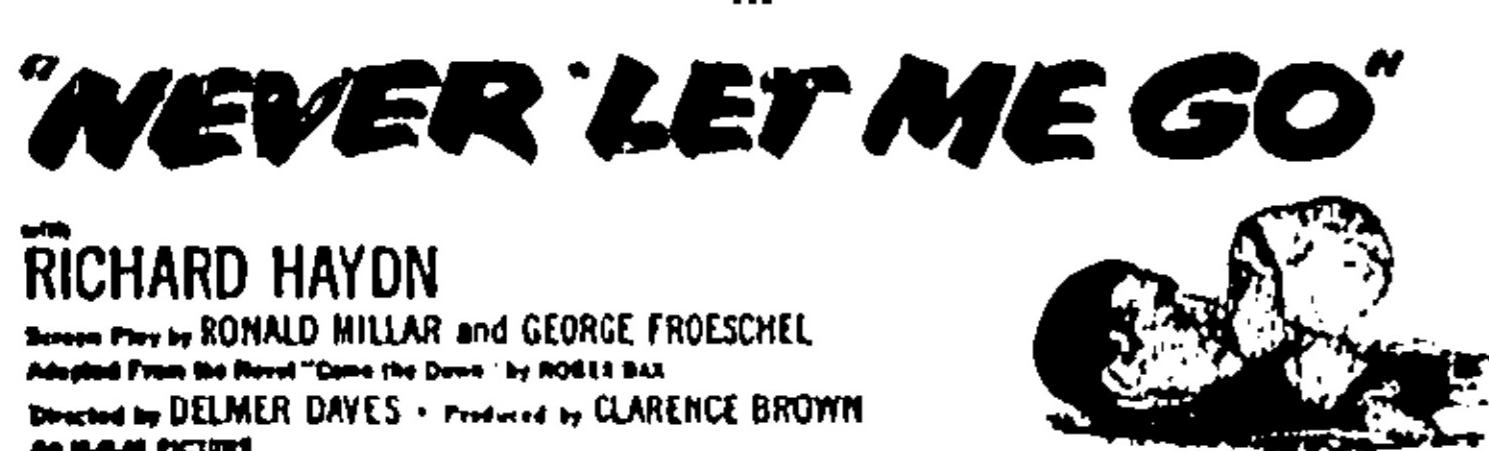
Wherever it goes, the Sunbeam-Talbot is the centre of attraction. Its streamstyled beauty graces any occasion; its exceptional performance carries you wherever you will in perfect comfort.

GILMAN MOTORS

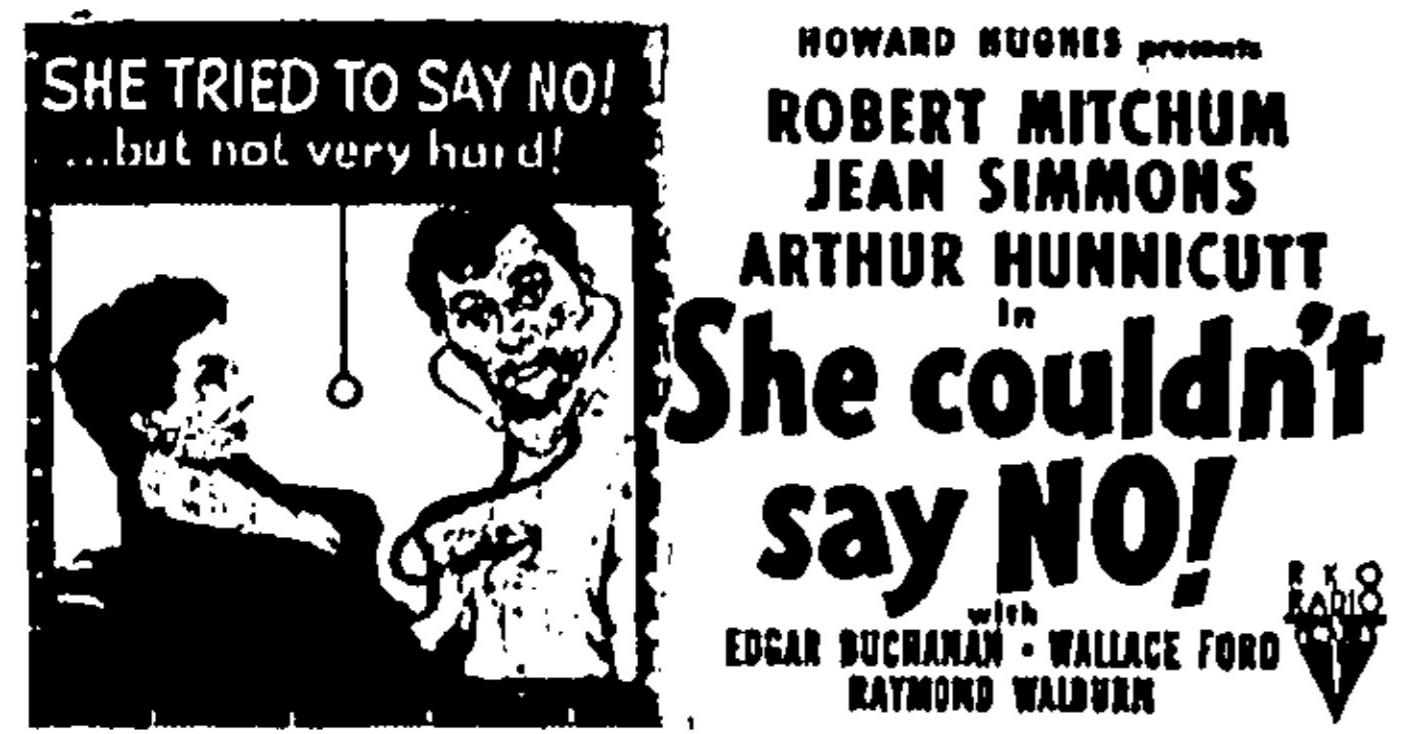
132 NATHAN ROAD TELEPHONE 56789

KING'S PRINCESS**SHOWING TO-DAY**AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20
& 9.30 P.M.**SAVAGE! SINFUL!**
SPECTACULAR!**SLAVES OF BABYLON**starring RICHARD CONTE • LINDA CHRISTIAN
with MAURICE BORNEHOLD**CAPITOL**
AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

ON PANORAMIC SCREEN

**LIBERTY**
AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.CLARK GABLE • GENE TIERNEY
in**LEE** *Theatre* **GREAT**
WORLD**SHOWING TO-DAY**

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

**MAJESTIC**
AT 2.30, 5.20,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.ALSO LATEST FOX MOVIEONE NEWS
OPENED TO-MORROW!
WILLIAM HOLDEN in
"BOOTS MALONE"**Dien Bien Phu Battle Runs Into Its 51st Day**

Hanoi, May 2. The battle of Dien Bien Phu, the fiercest and most spectacular of the Indo-Chinese war, which today entered upon a new phase, began on March 13 this year.

On the afternoon of that day and after intense artillery preparations, the Vietminh troops hurled themselves in screaming hordes on the camp, and succeeded in overwhelming the post "Beatrice" north-east of the main resistance point.

After the first night's fighting one thousand Vietnamese dead were found entangled in the barbed wire surrounding the camp. On the second night, there were 1,800.

The Vietminh troops in their new tactics used bamboo poles filled with explosives to blow up the barbed wire surrounding the camp. After 48 hours of incredibly fierce fighting, the French Union troops repelled the human tidal waves, and the camp's Commander, General de Castries, remained the master of the situation, although another outpost, "Gabrielle" to the north, fell a day later.

French and Vietnamese troops had recaptured Dien Bien Phu in a parachute operation on November 30 to facilitate the withdrawal of the French Union troops and civilians from Lai-chau, the capital of the Thai country some 100 miles to the north. The camp also constituted a threat to the Vietminh armies marching on Vientiane and Luang Prabang in Laos.

Although on March 14 after the first assault, the Vietminh had themselves requested a truce, so that the dead could be removed and buried, their commander, General Vo Nguyen Giap, soon showed he intended to prevent the evacuation of the French Union wounded by every possible means. Medical corps ambulances planes marked with Red Crosses were fired upon by the Vietminh, and the

pilots only managed to evacuate the seriously wounded by taking grave risks.

AIRFIELD DISABLED Eventually, after April 27, the Dien Bien Phu airfield was put completely out of use by Vietminh advances and heavy artillery fire, and all air links with the camp was cut off. Little happened during the last fortnight in March, but the 16,000 men under de Castries were getting used to these waiting periods.

For even before the first assault in March, they had been expecting an attack every hour, especially for the opening of the Berlin conference on January 26. This fortnight's breathing space was, however, in no way a period of rest for the men in Dien Bien Phu. They were feverishly engaged in reinforcing their defences, posting artillery and digging trenches. The airfield was still in use at the time, and huge airdrop poured munitions, food supplies, medicine, and miles of barbed wire for the French troops in the camp.

At the same time, Colonel de Castries launched a large scale operation supported by tanks on a village just over a mile west of the perimeter, killing 1,500 Vietminh and capturing large armament stores.

Meanwhile, the French Union aircraft continuously bombed the Vietminh anti-aircraft and artillery positions round the camp, and the jungle road along which Molotov trucks were

bringing up supplies.

The Second Assault

The second Vietminh assault was launched on March 30 on the eastern perimeter. Fighting was, if anything, fiercer than before, and General Giap seemed determined to obtain a victory at all costs regardless of losses.

Fighting was most bitter around the north-eastern posts "Silano" and "Dominique", which changed hands as many as six times. Once again, parachutists, Foreign Legionaires, and Moroccan sharpshooters battled hand-to-hand with fresh Vietminh troops who screamed wildly as they charged. De Castries had again to close in his defences, but on April 1, the Vietminh fury abated.

DANGEROUSLY REDUCED DANGEROUSLY REDUCED

During the following days, activity was concentrated on the north-west flank of the camp, and the Vietminh managed to occupy about a third of the airfield, and two strong-points, which had become impossible to supply. The area was thus dangerously narrowed down to some 700 yards. Volunteers from all units in the Red River delta carried out their first parachute jumps on this tiny stretch of airfield.

On April 10, Colonel De Castries was promoted Brigadier-General. The stars, which are part of every French General's insignia, were parachuted to the camp, along with cases of brandy to celebrate the occasion. Unfortunately, some of it fell into the Vietminh lines.

There was a period of quite another feverish reinforcing of defences. The Vietminh continued shelling the airfield, and endeavouring to run their trenches even closer towards the central defence points.

The Geneva conference opened on April 26, but there was still no large-scale attack. Even as the talks began on Indo-China, however, late yesterday evening, General Giap launched his third assault.

Everyone in Hanoi is deeply aware that this is bound to be the decisive phase in the Dien Bien Phu battle, and that its result may profoundly affect the future of Indo-China.—France Presse.

NEW YORK

Support For Harold Wilson's Action

Huyton, Lancashire, May 3. Mr Harold Wilson, who took left-wing Ancoats' Bevan's place on the Labour Party's shadow Cabinet, met his constituency party committee last night and explained his reasons for doing so.

Afterwards a statement was issued saying the committee was "in complete agreement with the actions of Mr Wilson. It also "reiterates its complete confidence in its member of Parliament."

Mr Bevan resigned from the Shadow Cabinet—the body of 12 from which Labour will draw its Cabinet if it regains power—because he disagreed with the policy of the party leadership on the proposed Southeast Asian defence alliance.—Reuter.

The disagreement hardened in April after the resignation of Ahmed Tugan, the Education Minister, necessitating a reshuffle of posts.

The new Prime Minister started consultations this evening. He is expected to complete his Cabinet tomorrow.

Abu El Huda Tewfig was Prime Minister before Dr Mukul Special.

Instalment plan**At Olympic Horse Trials**

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, and Princess Margaret in tweeds as they set out from Badminton House, Gloucestershire seat of the Duke of Beaufort, for a tour of the stables before watching the second day of the Olympia Horse Trials at Badminton held last week. — Reuterphoto.

QUEEN'S
AT 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30
P.M.

QUEENS ALHAMBRA
AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY

Errol Flynn • Olivia De Havilland in

*The Charge of the***LIGHT BRIGADE**with Patrick Knowles
Dana Niven
WARNER SMASH!

Watch for:—Gregory Peck in "The Million Pound Note"

Roxy & Broadway**SHOWING TO-DAY**Owing to length of picture please note change of times:
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.**RICHARD WIDMARK'S GREATEST PICTURE!**

Better Than Ever STEREOGRAPHIC Sound Effect!

AN ATOM BOMB OF SUPER-CHARGED EXCITEMENT!**"Hell and High Water"**

Technicolor Picture

CINEMASCOPE

ADDED ATTRACTION: CinemaScope Short Subject Alfred Newman Conducting 20th Century Fox Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in "POLOVETZIAN DANCES FROM PRINCE IGOR" TECHNICOLOR

ADMISSION AT USUAL PRICES
ROYX: \$3.50, \$2.40 & \$1.50.
BROADWAY: \$3.50, \$3.00, \$2.40 & \$1.50.
Complimentary Tickets Are Not Valid For This Picture.**EMPIRE**
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

AN AUSTRIAN PICTURE OF MUSIC & ROMANCE



ALSO LATEST PARAMOUNT NEWS

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

Enjoyable Cookery	\$15.00
Baby Book	25.00
The Hongkong Countryside. (Herklotz)	25.00
Hongkong Birds (Herklotz)	35.00
Coronation Glory	10.50
King George VI	10.50
It's Fun Finding Out — 2nd series (Bernard Wicksteed)	5.00
Rupert Adventures (Annual)	4.00
The Magic Scroll	5.00
More Adventures of Rupert (Annual)	5.00
Rupert (Magazines)	1.00
No Hiding Place (Behind Scotland Yard)	10.00
Common Marine Fishes of Hongkong (second enlarged edition)	24.00
Weights & Measurements	15.00
Chinese Creeds & Customs (V. R. Burkhardt)	18.00

On Sale At
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.
HONGKONG

Royal Children At Malta



Radio picture received from Malta showing Prince Charles and Princess Anne setting foot on the George Cross Island from the royal yacht Britannia. They are in the care of their great uncle and great aunt, Lord and Lady Mountbatten.—Central Press.

Malta Prepares Big Welcome For The Royal Family

Valetta, Malta, May 2.

Queen Elizabeth will step ashore tomorrow on this island which her father, King George VI decorated with the George Cross for its wartime courage.

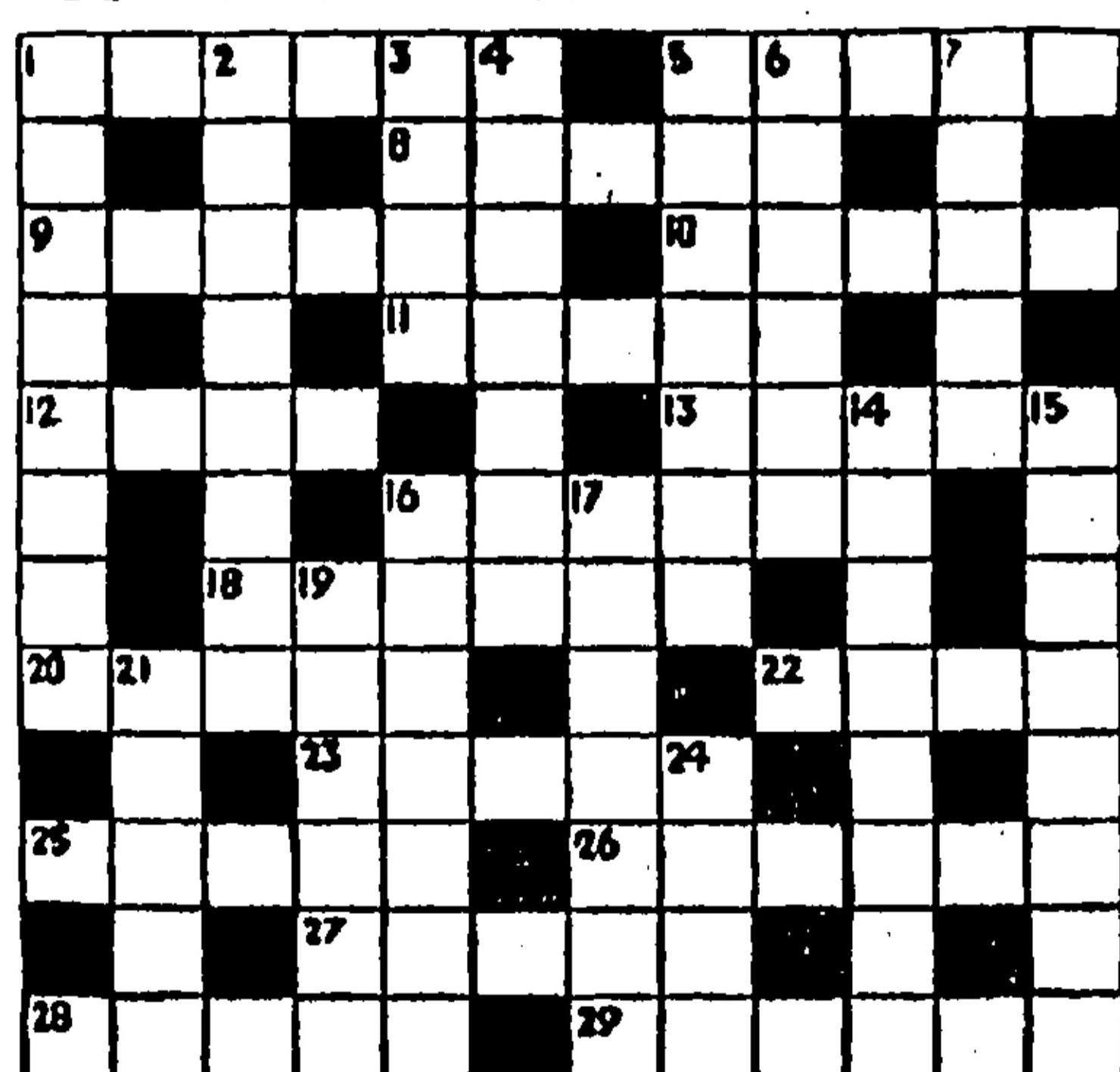
As the Royal yacht, Britannia approaches the island from Tobruk, Australian and New Zealand Air Force and Royal Navy jet planes based on Malta will fly past in greeting to the Royal family.

Then, as the Britannia prepares to enter the Grand Harbour, embattled wartime refuge of harassed convoys, bronzed Maltese gunners of the Army saluting battery in the ancient fort of Saint Elmo and Naval gunners in the shore establishments, H.M.S. Saint Angelo and H.M.S. Phoenix will fire Royal salutes of 21 guns.

Over the gaily decorated harbour will ring out Malta's many church bells. Youth organisations lining the breakwater arms will give a rousing welcome.

Naval helicopters will provide an escort of the breakwater. For the Queen, it will be a return to a place where as Princess Elizabeth she spent a happy holiday in 1940, when the Duke was serving with the Mediterranean Fleet.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- Subtract (6).
- Amusing (5).
- Musical instrument (5).
- Carry on again (6).
- Weight (6).
- Humble (6).
- Rescue (4).
- Felony (5).
- Kind of wool (6).
- Sock by petition (6).
- Number (6).
- Used in croquet (7).
- Yawn (4).
- Mixed rain and snow (5).
- Torrent (6).
- Heavenly (6).
- Space (3).
- Noblement (6).
- Proper line (6).

DOWN

- Scorn (8).
- Downs (8).
- Stupor (4).
- Voices (7).
- Festive carousal (7).
- Oblige to live within limits of country (6).
- Dance (5).
- Withdrawing (7).
- Church festival (6).
- Sufficient (5).
- Weary (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 8 Lamb, 7 Burst, 8 Innis, 9 Hazel, 10 Cabaret, 12 Lost, 15 Power, 16 Leads, 18 Array, 21 Armist, 22 Oboe, 23 Timid, 25 Egg, 29 Dedicated, 30 Kill, 31 Magic, 32 Mail, 33 Port, 34 Down, 1 Rural, 2 Recepies, 4 Abattoir, 5 Bill, 6 Onus, 8 Hawk, 11 Root, 13 Aisy, 14 Toys, 15 Rabid, 17 Zone, 18 Ling, 20 Reducers, 22 Coven, 24 Idler, 25 Sepia, 27 Gaze, 28 Skirt.

ANZUS Council Holds Long Meeting In Geneva

Geneva, May 2. A 10-man council of the three ANZUS pact countries—the United States, Australia and New Zealand—held a 75-minute review of the political and military situation in Southeast Asia at an emergency meeting today.

The meeting was called by the United States Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, under Article Three of the 81-month-old ANZUS pact, under which the three countries pledged mutual defence aid if attacked.

Article Three says that the parties will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any of them, the territorial integrity, political independence, or security of any of the parties is threatened in the Pacific."

Delegates would not comment on the significance, if any, of Mr Dulles's invoking this section of the treaty for calling the meeting.

But reliable sources said Mr Dulles made plain to the Australian and New Zealand representatives he was determined to push ahead with extending non-Communist defensive arrangements in Southeast Asia.

It was suggested that today's meeting might prove to be the first of a series of defence talks between the United States and other friendly countries bordering the Pacific.

Mr Dulles and the External Affairs Ministers of Australia, Mr Richard Casey, and of New Zealand, Mr T. Clifton Webb, reaffirmed their determination that the ANZUS pact would not be upset or superseded by any other defensive bloc in Southeast Asia or the Pacific.

RECORDS KEPT

Records were kept of the meeting and it was decided that an agreed minute—not necessarily a full text—would be released to the British Government, as at past ANZUS gatherings.

But Commonwealth sources said this official minute would be supplemented by the fullest possible discussion of the meeting with the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden, and his advisers.

Britain has made no secret of her annoyance at being excluded from the pact, and all three countries have agreed that Britain receive a complete briefing on all ANZUS talks.

It is understood Mr Dulles referred again to the American-backed appeal by the French

Outside London Life Is Dull For Tourists

London, May 2. Outside London, say tourists, life in Britain is unbearably dull.

Sir Alexander Maxwell, chairman of the British Travel and Holidays Association, said that this was an inevitable complaint.

"We are told that even in our liveliest resorts people are more or less compelled by lack of entertainment to go to bed by 10.30 or 11 o'clock.

"To many visitors, especially those from the Continent, the evening should be just beginning at this time—and it is not merely a question of licensing laws."

"Of course these do make life unnecessarily difficult for many people who wish to enjoy themselves in a normal way rather than cramming as many drinks as they possibly can to the detriment of their system or digestion, before the final hour of 10.30 pm. or 11 pm."

Sir Alexander, talking to the council of the association in London, said that last year American tourists brought in £20,000,000.

To Catch Speeding Motorists

Wellington, May 3. Microwave speed detectors, to enable New Zealand police to catch speeding motorists, may soon be produced on a large scale by a firm of British manufacturers.

Tests of the apparatus in New Zealand have been so successful that sufficient of the detectors are being manufactured to supply traffic officers throughout the dominion. —China Mail Special.

Russians Prefer Geraldo's Music To Stan Kenton's

Leonid Utyosov, Russia's chief melody-maker, bands are weaving "bare sound patterns without any content."

He claimed in a magazine article that Russians "do not think much of music in the style of Stan Kenton and Woody Herman."

But Britain's Geraldo and his Orchestra stand supreme in Soviet estimation—they are real artists."

Utyosov, who is Art Director of the Russian State Variety Orchestra, wrote to News, Moscow's English-language magazine, to give his views on Western music.

Russian MVD Agent Appeals For His Wife And Son



Holding photographs of his wife Yana, 32, and son Alexander Nikolayevich, 1½, is Captain Khokhlov of the Russian MVD secret police who surrendered to the American authorities in Frankfurt, Germany, where he had been sent to murder an anti-Communist Russian. He has appealed to the Russians to release his wife and son and allow them to join him in America. —Reuterphoto.

No British Troops For Indo-China Says Aneurin Bevan

Leeds, Yorkshire, May 2.

Mr Aneurin Bevan, leader of the left-wing of the Labour Party, said today Britain should tell the United States that "we are not prepared to send one soldier to Indo-China to support French imperialism."

He told a May Day rally: "It would have been much better if that had been said to the United States much earlier."

"Men's lives would have been saved and the Geneva conference would have been much easier if America had not been allowed to believe that whatever she said Britain would back."

Political quarters in Rome said there would be no specific agenda for their talks but subjects to be discussed would include the Trieste problem, Italy's ratification of the European Defence Community, her attitude towards possible conversion of the Balkan Pact into a military alliance, emigration and American offshoot orders to Italian industry.

Sigmar Scelba has repeatedly stated his Government does not subordinate E.D.C. ratification, now before Parliament, to the satisfaction of Italy's claims on the Trieste territory, but he has made clear that an acceptable solution of the long standing issue would greatly boost chances of obtaining a large Parliamentary majority for E.D.C. ratification. —Reuter.

He said there was a difference of opinion in the governing Conservative Party.

Referring to 85,000 British troops in the Suez Canal zone, he said 35 to 40 Conservative Members of Parliament had told the Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, that if he dared to evacuate them, they would vote against their own Party.

Mr Bevan claimed that "there have always been divisions of opinion in the Labour Party. This was a reference to the state of the Party following his resignation from the Labour 'shadow cabinet' in Parliament through disagreements with the leadership."

He said there was a difference of opinion in the governing Conservative Party.

Hull, May 3. Mr Hugh Gaitskell, former Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer, said last night that complete freedom for Indo-China was long overdue.

"These people must be given their independence just as we gave India her independence," he told a May Day demonstration.

He said he had come back from the Commonwealth conference of the Royal Institute of International Affairs in Pakistan with the deep conviction that the principles of Commonwealth unity were the ideals of the Labour movement in Britain.

NO DIFFERENCE

He thought there was no real difference in the fundamental principles of the Labour foreign policy.

It must be the foreign policy of any Socialist Government to bring freedom and democracy to all the peoples of the world.

In a reference to the recent disagreement within the party on German rearmament and the subsequent resignation of left-winger Aneurin Bevan from the party's shadow cabinet, Mr Gaitskell said that the Labour Party believed in people uniting for the common cause.

"It was in the Conservative party, Confronted with a position of such extreme rightism, that many of us, and I among them, accepted the leadership of a moderate political force."

Plans For Town In New Forest For 40,000 Londoners

London. Planning officers of the Socialist-controlled London County Council and the Hampshire County Council, which has an independent majority, will have talks within the next few days on proposals to build an over-spill town of 40,000 people in the heart of the New Forest, according to London reports.

They may discuss methods of overcoming the strong opposition of the local council. This body has voted against having anything further to do with the scheme.

The Hampshire authorities are in favour of some form of new town, but alternative sites may be proposed.

An official of the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District Council said: "We know that the further talks are taking place despite our opposition. We shall watch the development closely."

This is the latest development in the relentless efforts of the L.C.C. to house its over-spill population.

The tentacles of the London octopus are wriggling and searching over an area mainly within a radius of 100 miles from County Hall.

In some cases it has been the L.C.C. which has made the first approach. In others the local council, hearing of the efforts of London to find space, have made offers to the authority.

Nantwich, in Cheshire, which was well beyond the distance London contemplated moving people, made such an approach and talks were held.

Recently the Minister of Housing said this was too far away, and the scheme has been dropped.

Under the expanded towns scheme it is hoped to move some 350,000 people, together with industry to support them, to outlying areas, some very remote from London, within the next 20 years.

"SECRET" CRITICISED Farming organisations throughout the south are highly critical of what they call the "secret" maintained by local councils.

An official of the National Farmers' Union said: "No one knows just what is being hatched between the two authorities until a plan is suddenly produced. We are then left with only a limited time in which to prepare objections to the seizing of agricultural land."

But London is placing great hopes on the Brockland area of East Anglia. There, it is claimed, little damage would be done to agriculture.

Restitution Sought For Victims

Munich, May 2. Two hundred former Nazi party officials and members of an "Association of Denazification Victims", at a rally here today, demanded "moral, legal and economic restitution" for people interned after the war and dealt with by denazification courts.

The Chairman of the Association's Bavarian branch suggested that the restitution should be financed by a 50 per cent tax on all capital acquired between 1945 and 1949. —Reuter.

South Korean Minister At Geneva



THE NEAPOLITANS ARE POOR, BUT THEY ARE HAPPY

By Bernard Ronald

Naples. SUNSHINE, song and slums, shared by huge families, is the setting in Naples, this city of romance — and life in the raw.

The average Neapolitan, it would seem, is a freak of nature. He is desperately poor (and I mean desperately) with little or no prospects of enjoying a reasonable standard of living. Yet this average Neapolitan is, nevertheless, as happy as the proverbial sandboy.

The first thing I noticed when I arrived in Naples was that our Neapolitan sings all day. He sings as he cycles or walks to his work, he serenades the stars over a glass of wine in the evening and, as he and his colleagues make merry with their mandoline and guitars, the watching tourists must think (and do think) that the Neapolitans haven't a care in the world.

The average earnings of the Neapolitan breadwinner are less than £4 a week—about 13 shillings a day—to keep families which, more often than not, run into double figures. To keep them, what is more, in a country where meat is 7 shillings a pound and a 2 lb. loaf costs 18. 6d!

Four out of every ten men in this port of over one million inhabitants are unemployed. They cannot find a steady job in an office or factory because there are too few industries in an area where agriculture is the main occupation.

Bubbling Over

Yet the Neapolitan is a gay signor, bubbling over with the joy of living, wearing a smile as broad as his suntanned face.

Living in misery does not stop him from being merry. Yet how many millions of other Europeans who are much better off go through life with a melancholy air, a semi-frown constantly on their faces? If we see a man singing at the top of his voice in a street in Britain we think he is "off his nut" and the police would probably keep a careful eye on him while even his closest friends won't start to worry about his mental state.

Just why the Neapolitan is so gay and carefree is a question which defies the psychologists. It seems he is born with melody and mirth, just as he is born with an olive skin and black curly hair. Certainly good spirits are infectious in this picturesque town of white houses, flanked by the grandeur of Vesuvius, where the sky is azure, the Mediterranean is a very deep blue and the panorama is bathed in bright, warm sunshine.

Little wonder the town produced a singer like Caruso, and no wonder at all why Neapolitan songs are famous the world over. Nor, as one watches the flashing-eyed signorines twirling to the "Tarantella", while mandolin music floats across the Bay, does one wonder that romance blooms here like a perennial flower?

In fact, it might be said to be a special product of Naples — a much part and parcel of the daily scene as the catches of fish at the port, the tomatoes growing on the hills or the vineyards and the old world churches.

Naples is a "must" for all Italian honeymooning couples, whether they come from Industrial Milan, art-loving Florence, or Rome the capital. It attracts the young and the old, for dozens of British and American army officers, from brigadier-generals to colonels and captains, are living in sunny retirement in villas on the coast.

The Neapolitans are the happiest people in the world. They are also probably the most superstitious.

Their greatest fear is of the "malocchio"—a man with a squat or with a reputation of bringing bad luck to those who cross his path.

Only Protection

I spoke with Salvatore, a husky lorry driver. He had a huge pair of cattle horns on the radiator of his truck and brightly painted "God save us from our adversaries" on the cabin.

"Drat it, Nellie, don't touch them cards!" cried Mr Baxter, much more tatty and irascible in his own domain. But his tone changed as he spoke to me. "Look there, sir! There's," he counted slowly, "there's nine cards in the wicked wrong 'un's hand. And sixteen in the young gentlemen's."

"Listen!" whispered the young lady. "Isn't someone walking about upstairs?"

"Drat it, Nellie, it's only Bob Taupin. Who else would it be?"

"As you said, the cards on the table are not much disarranged," I remarked. "Indeed, the small pile in front of your 'young gentleman' is not disarranged at all. Twelve cards lie at his elbow."

Most Neapolitan families live crowded together in tiny one-roomed flats. Space is at a premium. So the women take their wash tubs outside and do the family laundry in the street. So do the artisans, the men who make wooden toys, shoes, picture frames and other things at home. The pavements are the business centres of the town. For everything and anything is sold outdoors, from fruit to furniture, cutlery to clothing, old paintings to new and used motor cars.

In this town of out-of-doors activity, anything goes. People act just what they like, dress how they like, and sing as loud and as long as they like.

For in Naples life is in the raw. But life is fun at that.

The new exploits of SHERLOCK HOLMES

By
ADRIAN CONAN DOYLE
and
JOHN DICKSON CARR

MADAME Taupin's exhibition is too well known to need any general description.

But I was unpleasantly impressed by the tableau called "The History of a Crime." The scenes were most lifelike in both effect and colour, with the wigs and small swords of the eighteenth century. Had I in fact been guilty of those mythical gambling lapses charged upon me by Holmes' ill-timed sense of humour, the display might well have harassed my conscience.

This was especially so when we lowered our heads under the iron railing, and approached the two gamblers in the mimic room.

"Drat it, Nellie, don't touch them cards!" cried Mr Baxter, much more tatty and irascible in his own domain. But his tone changed as he spoke to me. "Look there, sir! There's," he counted slowly, "there's nine cards in the wicked wrong 'un's hand. And sixteen in the young gentlemen's."

"Holmes, this is amazing. How could you have known that?"

"Logic, my dear fellow. Now let us see."

"One moment," I said firmly. "You spoke earlier of a crutch, but where could you have obtained one at such short notice? That is an extraordinary crutch. It seems to be constructed of some lightweight metal, and shines where the rays of the lamp."

"Our door had suddenly dashed open. To be precise, it was kicked open with a crash. But this had been done only as a jest by the man who killed it, for his loud, overfed burst of laughter rang like a brassy trumpet."

In the aperture stood a burly, red-faced gentleman with a shinning hat, a costly frock coat over open a white waistcoat to show the diamonds on his watchguard, and the single flame ruby in his cravat.

Though not so tall as Holmes, he was fat broader and heavier; indeed, with a figure not unlike my own. His loud laugh rang out again, and his cunning little eyes flashed, as he held up a leather bag and shook it.

"Here you are, culliv!" cried he. "You're the Scotland Yard man, ain't you? A thousand gold sovereigns, and all yours for the asking!"

"No one. But, from certain facts in my possession, the inference was obvious. Such a visit looked innocent, did it not? It would arouse no suspicion on the part of anyone who might be following—some follower, for instance, employed by that eminent sportsman, Sir Phileas Fogg, who wished to make certain you did not win another fortune by secret information as you did on last year's Derby."

"You don't interest me, my man!"

"Indeed? and yet, with your sporting proclivities, I feel sure you must be interested in cards."

"Cards?"

"Playing cards," said Holmes blandly, taking some from his dressing gown pocket and holding them up fanwise. "In fact, these nine cards."

"Mr Holmes, you cannot have known it!"

"I fear so. Kindly observe the small table at my left as I sit upon the sofa. When you approached me, there was nothing upon the table save a sheet of notepaper emblazoned with the somewhat conspicuous crest of Sir Gervase Darlington."

"Oh, heaven help me!" cried the wretched young lady.

"Yet you were strongly affected. You looked fixedly at the table, as though in recognition. When you saw my eyes upon you, you gave a start and changed colour. By apparently casual remarks, I elicited the fact that your employer is Lord Hove, the owner of Shoreness."

"No! No! No!"

"It would have been easy for you to have substituted the new cards for those already in the wax figure's hand. As your grandfather said, there is a side door at Madame Taupin's which cannot properly be locked. You could have made the substitution secretly at night before you called formally to escort your grandfather home in the morning."

"Good old Watson!"

"Why do you smile, Holmes? Have I said something else of a humorous character?"

"No, no. Heaven forbid! Yet sometimes I suspect that I may be much shallower, and you far more deep, than customarily I am wont to believe."

"Your satire is beyond me. However, there is the evidence. But you must not publicly betray even Sir Gervase Darlington, lest he betray you."

"Humph! I have a score to settle with that gentleman, Watson. His offer to open for me a career as a professional boxer I could not in honesty resent. In its way, it is a great compliment. But to confuse me with a Scotland Yard detective! That was an insult, I fear, which I can neither forget nor forgive."

"Holmes, how many favours have I ever asked of you?"

"Well, well, have it as you please. We shall keep the cards only as a last resort, should that sleeping beauty again misbehave. As for Miss Baxter—"

"I loved him!" cried the poor young lady passionately. "Or well, at least, I thought I did."

"In any event, Miss Baxter, Watson shall remain silent as long as you like. He must not speak until some long, long distant date when you, perhaps in an audience grand madam, shall smile and give your leave. Half a century, see that, you will have forgotten all about Sir Gervase Darlington."

"Never! Never! Never!"

"Oh, I fancy so," smiled Sherlock Holmes. "On sentence, plus or minus, on se laisse, sans aucun doute, il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie. Mais il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie."

Concluding:

THE ADVENTURE OF THE WAX GAMBLERS

"Holmes, my question concerned the answer to our problem!"

"This is the answer to our problem."

"Though I am the most long suffering of men, I protested strongly when he packed me off upstairs to my old room. I believed that I should get no sleep upon the rack of this mystery, yet I slept heavily, and it was nearly eleven o'clock when I descended to breakfast."

"Who's this? Watson? Sawbones' fellow? Oh." Suddenly he thrust his beefy red face into mine. "Know anything about boxin'?"

"No," said I. "That is—not much."

"Then see you don't get a lesson," retorted Sir Gervase playfully, and roared with mirth again. "Lady? What lady?"

Seeing Miss Baxter, he looked a little disconcerted, but directed a killing oglie. "No lady, Sawbones. But a felchin' little piece, by God!"

"Sir Gervase," said I, "you are now warned for the last time."

"One moment, Watson," interrupted the calm voice of Sherlock Holmes. "You must forgive Sir Gervase Darlington. No doubt Sir Gervase has not yet recovered from the visit he paid three days ago to the wax exhibition."

"There would be a tremendous killing," said I, "for any gambler who could learn that well-guarded secret and back the horse!"

Sherlock Holmes held up the fan of cards in his left hand.

"My dear Miss Eleanor Baxter," cried he, with a sorrowful sheerness, "why did you let Sir Gervase Darlington persuade you? Your grandfather would not like to hear that you used the wax exhibition to leave this message—telling Sir Gervase what he wished to know without even speaking to him, writing to him, or approaching within a mile of him."

"Sir Gervase," said I, "already have I warned you for the last time."

If previously Miss Baxter had turned pale and uttered a moan at seeing Sir Gervase, it was as nothing to the piteous look now in her stricken grey eyes. Swallowing her fear, she began to falter out a denial.

"No, no!" said Holmes, gently. "It really will not do. Within a few moments of the time you entered this room last night, I was aware of your—your acquaintanceship with Sir Gervase here."

"Playing cards," said Holmes blandly, taking some from his dressing gown pocket and holding them up fanwise. "In fact, these nine cards."

"Mr Holmes, you cannot have known it!"

"I fear so. Kindly observe the small table at my left as I sit upon the sofa. When you approached me, there was nothing upon the table save a sheet of notepaper emblazoned with the somewhat conspicuous crest of Sir Gervase Darlington."

"Oh, heaven help me!" cried the wretched young lady.

"Yet you were strongly affected. You looked fixedly at the table, as though in recognition. When you saw my eyes upon you, you gave a start and changed colour. By apparently casual remarks, I elicited the fact that your employer is Lord Hove, the owner of Shoreness."

"No! No! No!"

"It would have been easy for you to have substituted the new cards for those already in the wax figure's hand. As your grandfather said, there is a side door at Madame Taupin's which cannot properly be locked. You could have made the substitution secretly at night before you called formally to escort your grandfather home in the morning."

"Good old Watson!"

"Why do you smile, Holmes? Have I said something else of a humorous character?"

"No, no. Heaven forbid! Yet sometimes I suspect that I may be much shallower, and you far more deep, than customarily I am wont to believe."

"Your satire is beyond me. However, there is the evidence. But you must not publicly betray even Sir Gervase Darlington, lest he betray you."

"Humph! I have a score to settle with that gentleman, Watson. His offer to open for me a career as a professional boxer I could not in honesty resent. In its way, it is a great compliment. But to confuse me with a Scotland Yard detective! That was an insult, I fear, which I can neither forget nor forgive."

"Holmes, how many favours have I ever asked of you?"

"Well, well, have it as you please. We shall keep the cards only as a last resort, should that sleeping beauty again misbehave. As for Miss

"I loved him!" cried the poor young lady passionately. "Or well, at least, I thought I did."

"In any event, Miss Baxter, Watson shall remain silent as long as you like. He must not speak until some long, long distant date when you, perhaps in an audience grand madam, shall smile and give your leave. Half a century, see that, you will have forgotten all about Sir Gervase Darlington."

"Never! Never! Never!"

"Oh, I fancy so," smiled Sherlock Holmes. "On sentence, plus or minus, on se laisse, sans aucun doute, il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie. Mais il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie."

"I loved him!" cried the poor young lady passionately. "Or well, at least, I thought I did."

"In any event, Miss Baxter, Watson shall remain silent as long as you like. He must not speak until some long, long distant date when you, perhaps in an audience grand madam, shall smile and give your leave. Half a century, see that, you will have forgotten all about Sir Gervase Darlington."

"Never! Never! Never!"

"Oh, I fancy so," smiled Sherlock Holmes. "On sentence, plus or minus, on se laisse, sans aucun doute, il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie. Mais il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie."

"I loved him!" cried the poor young lady passionately. "Or well, at least, I thought I did."

"In any event, Miss Baxter, Watson shall remain silent as long as you like. He must not speak until some long, long distant date when you, perhaps in an audience grand madam, shall smile and give your leave. Half a century, see that, you will have forgotten all about Sir Gervase Darlington."

"Never! Never! Never!"

"Oh, I fancy so," smiled Sherlock Holmes. "On sentence, plus or minus, on se laisse, sans aucun doute, il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie. Mais il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie."

"I loved him!" cried the poor young lady passionately. "Or well, at least, I thought I did."

"In any event, Miss Baxter, Watson shall remain silent as long as you like. He must not speak until some long, long distant date when you, perhaps in an audience grand madam, shall smile and give your leave. Half a century, see that, you will have forgotten all about Sir Gervase Darlington."

"Never! Never! Never!"

"Oh, I fancy so," smiled Sherlock Holmes. "On sentence, plus or minus, on se laisse, sans aucun doute, il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie. Mais il est de la force éprouvée dans le jeu de la partie."

"I loved him!" cried the poor young lady passionately. "Or well, at least, I thought I did."

"In any event, Miss Baxter, Watson shall remain silent as long as you like. He must not speak until some long, long distant date when you, perhaps in an audience grand madam, shall smile and give your leave. Half a century, see that, you will have forgotten all about Sir Gervase Darlington."

JAPAN AND INDIA TAKE THE LEAD

As Eight New Records Were Set Up On First Day Of Asian Games

Manila, May 2.

The Japan and India delegations proved today they were the teams to beat in the Second Asian Games.

The two teams captured the lion's share of honours in the track and field final events while placing the majority of their athletes in the trials. Nationalist China and South Korea showed surprising power in the same events.

Asian Games records were smashed in eight of the 11 track and field events today by at least 22 different competitors.

India's athletes won Gold Medals in the discus throw and the running high jump, while in the running high jump, while in the running high jump, while in the running broad jumping and three record places.

South Korea's Choi had to turn the speed on in the final 25 metres of the 1,500-metre run to beat out Yoshitaka Murayama from Japan who was right on his heels with a time of 3:18. One second behind him was Japan's Michio Ueki with 3:59.

A DISAPPOINTMENT

The running high jump was a disappointment to them, though they thought a new Asian Games record would be set this year with all the talents available.

The winning jump of 6 ft 4 1/4 inches by India's Ajit Singh, however, may later be declared a new record over the old mark of 6 ft 4 3/4 inches.

The discus throw was a different story, however, with the first two winners all smashing the old Asian Games mark of 130 ft 10 1/4 ins. set in New Delhi in 1951.

First-place Parduman Singh of India tossed the discus 142 ft 3 1/4 ins.

All but four Japanese men runners qualified for the semi-finals in the dash and running events. Everyone of the Japanese girl runners qualified for the semi-finals.—United Press.

Reuter reports ten Asian records fell in sensational triumphs by India, Pakistan, Japan and South Korea in the first day of track and field events.

The Indians struck top form and had two of four final events to their credit when the day finished. With both their wins in discus throw and running high jump, the new Indian champions of Asia set records.

Japan took the final in the running broad jump, and the South Korean champion, Chi Yun-chul, established another record of 3 mins. and 50 1/8 seconds in the 1,500-metre run in the 1,500-metre run final.

Other new Asian Games records were set up by Abdul Khalil of Pakistan in a thrilling 100-metre dash and by Japan in trials of the women's 100-metre dash, 400-metre dash, women's 80-metre hurdles and women's 200-metre dash.

Pakistan's Sharif Butt clipped 4/10 of a second off India's previous 22-second record in the 200-metre trials for men.

Experts said the performances showed all round improvement in Asian athletic standards.

UNEXPECTED FEAT

An unexpected feat by Singapore came in the second heat of the women's 80-metre hurdle trials, when Tang Pei-wah beat the Asian Games record by winning her heat in 12-1/10 seconds, two seconds better than Yoneda Kyoko's time for Japan at New Delhi in 1951. But Tang had bad luck. In the early heat, Japan's Michiko Uematsu won in 12 seconds.

RESULTS

The results of yesterday's events, as reported by Reuter, were:

TRACK & FIELD

110 metres hurdles (trials)—Heat 1—Two qualifiers for the second trials: K. Kawano (Japan) 15.4 secs.; L. O. Valente (Brazil) 15.5 secs.; Heat 2—Sarwan Singh (India) 15.1 secs.; Macatilo Nakashima (Philippines) 15.7 secs.; Michinobu Fukuzawa (Japan).

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—Abdul Khalil (Pakistan) 10.21; 10.25; 10.26; Heat 2—Choi Yun-chul (South Korea) 10.20; 10.21; 10.22; Heat 3—Ueki Michio (Japan); Heat 4—Takao Matsunaga (Japan).

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—Y. Ochiai (Japan) 11.20; 11.21; Heat 3—A. Cachetador (India) 11.21; Heat 4—B. Joseph (India) 11.20; Heat 5—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 6—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—C. Brown (India) 11.20; Heat 3—Atsushi Nambu (Japan); Heat 4—T. Tsuchiya (Japan); Heat 5—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 6—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Males, three of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.21; 11.22; Heat 2—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 3—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20; Heat 4—K. Kawano (Japan) 11.20.

100 Metres (Females, two of each qualifying for final round): Heat 1—K. Kawano (Japan)

Test Prospects**NOW IT IS THE BATTING THAT WILL BE ENGLAND SELECTORS' HEADACHE**

London, May 2.
The building up of a team to retain the "ashes" in Australia next winter will be the main concern of England's selectors during the first class cricket season which gets into full swing this week.

Without detracting from the importance of the County Championship and the first official visit of Pakistan, the Australian tour will be uppermost in the minds of cricket officials and fans.

Not so very long ago England's bowling was causing most concern for those responsible for framing the test sides. Unfortunately he is doing his spell of national service in the armed forces and will have few opportunities for first class cricket.

Last year when only 22, he scored 2,294 runs in only his full season. Another summer of regular play would probably have enabled this youngster of marked ability and enterprise to acquire that little extra steadiness lacking from his play at the start of an innings.

SIMILARLY UNSETTLED

For what consolation it affords, Australia are similarly unsettled in the matter of opening batsmen. Lindsay Hassett who stepped into the breach to open with Arthur Morris in four of the tests in England in 1953, was only experimental and in any case Hassett has now retired.

The Harvey family might come to the rescue of the selectors "down under." Neil Harvey is already established as one of the best left-handers in the world and he may be joined in Australia's Test team by brother Clarence and Ray.

Clarence, known to everyone as Mike, scored two centuries in Queensland in the recent Sheffield matches and Ray hit two hundreds for Victoria. Both Ray and Clarence are as equally fit of foot and supple of wrist as their more illustrious younger brother.

It could well be that Clarence, Neil and Ray may all number two, three and four in Australia's batting order. —China Mail Special.

ASCARI GARNERS ANOTHER TITLE

Brescia, Italy, May 2.
World champion Alberto Ascari of Italy tonight won the presentation of prizes for the winter season's competition in the Club House on Sunday May 9 at approximately 6 p.m. There will be two competitions run on that day—singlets against bogey in the morning and 4 balls in the afternoon.

The draw for the Jack Macgregor Cup is now posted in the club house. The first round must be completed by 31st May.

G. D. Smart hoisted in one at the 12th on April 25 and celebrated the feat in the usual manner.

Who is YOUR H.K. FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR?

NEVER before has there been so much public interest in Hongkong soccer than during the season now ending. And never before has the Colony boasted so many talented players—players who have given tens of thousands of soccer "fans" clever and thrilling exhibitions of their prowess in this greatest of all local field sports.

The China Mail has, therefore, decided to organise among the followers and supporters of local soccer a Gallup Poll to determine, by popular vote,

Hongkong's Footballer of the Year.

China Mail readers are cordially invited to fill in the form below, nominating whom they regard as the Colony's outstanding footballer of the current season.

The two qualifications for nomination are:

(1) Footballing prowess.

(2) Sportsmanship on the field of play.

Nominations should be addressed to The Editor, China Mail, Wyndham Street, Hongkong. Entries will close on MONDAY, MAY 10.

The result will be announced on Saturday, May 15.

To the Editor, China Mail.

My nomination for Hongkong's Footballer of the Year, taking into regard his playing ability and his sportsmanship on the field of play is

.....
of the Club.

Signed
.....

CUP FINALISTS

The Preston North End XI which lost to West Bromwich in the Cup Final at Wembley on Saturday was picked from the above 12 players. They are (left to right) Tom Finney (captain), Wayman, Baxter, Cunningham, Walton, Docherty, Foster, Forbes, Marston, Morrison, Mattinson and Thompson.—Central Press Photo.

Winter Golf Season Ends At Shek-O

The winter season came to a close with a flag competition held on April 25. F. D. Hammond made good use of his handicap and was the winner by finishing up on the 20th Green.

The winners of the various other competitions held or finalised during April were as follows:

Bogey Pool

"A" Section—J. Dickson (16)—2 up
"B" Section—B. R. Barter (16)—4 up

Medal Pool

"A" Section—J. Dickson (16)—0 nett.
"B" Section—R. D. Bolton (18)—63 nett.

Easter competitions

Eclectic—P. H. Taggart (14)—58 nett.
Stableford—R. D. Bolton (18)—34 points.
Greensome—A. Graham (10) & N. P. Fox (9)—nett 00.

Archie Lyle Cup

Winner—E. B. McBain
Runner up—E. Boycott

Members are reminded that the presentation of prizes for the winter season's competition in the Club House on Sunday May 9 at approximately 6 p.m. There will be two competitions run on that day—singlets against bogey in the morning and 4 balls in the afternoon.

The draw for the Jack Macgregor Cup is now posted in the club house. The first round must be completed by 31st May.

G. D. Smart hoisted in one at the 12th on April 25 and celebrated the feat in the usual manner.

Britain Will Have Stock-Car Racing Says Aussie

By J. W. TAYLOR

The Bethnal Green Road Safety Committee may protest; the National Speedway Control Board may talk of vetos; the Royal Automobile Club may ponder the question of permits for drivers, but Australian John Pugh, who is interested in the plan to bring stock-car racing to London, says quite emphatically that he will open his first track in London, and that by the end of this year at least 35 more tracks will be operating in various parts of Britain.

This new racing thrill for the millions has spread from the United States, where it started three years ago, to most of the countries of Europe, and there it is having a phenomenal boom.

There's big money in it, too. The crowds are enormous, and they are prepared to pay good prices for what is considered to be a more thrilling and blood-curdling sport than speedway racing, and undoubtedly rivals the ancient chariot racing for its dangers.

Picture the stock-race meeting. Spectators are packed all round the arena embankment, and there is an anticipatory sigh as the 20 cars in the race line up. Strange collection of cars, low-hung-top scions of all kinds stripped of most of their interior furnishings.

Rules require the drivers to be strapped in their seats before the start. The flag drops, and it is at once apparent which was the best strategy to adopt. The prize goes to the car which lasts the best, and that was the car which got to the bends first. And so the drivers put the front right down and embark on a course that can only be described as suicidal.

At the first bend it seems as if every car has made a deliberate attack on the other. There's a terrible screeching of tyres, appalling collisions, a scalding crash, and an ominous sound of rending metal.

Cars stand on their tails, their bonnets, or on their sides, and some go rolling over and over off the track, the strapped-in drivers still hanging on to the steering column. It does not seem possible that there could be any survivors.

The dust clears, however, and miraculously there are still some cars on four wheels Schmidt (Sweden) 6-2, 0-1, in the semi-finals.

C/I Harris And J. Watson Honoured By HKFC

A chorus of "For they are jolly good fellows," led by Col. H. B. Dowbiggin, O.B.E., climaxed a presentation by the Colonel to two well-known sporting figures at the pavilion of the Hongkong Football Club yesterday.

The first to be honoured was retiring member Jack Watson who has been with the Club for 33 years as a very active soccer member. He was captain of the Club (1923-29) and recently became a very enthusiastic bowls member. He was presented with two silver beer mugs.

Mr. Watson will be leaving the Colony on Thursday in the City of Chicago for Japan en route to England. His wife, who was acclaimed by Col. Dowbiggin for her helpful work to the Club with a "Tigress," will be leaving with him.

Chief Insp. Harris, of the Hongkong Police, was also presented with a memento for his guidance and help to the Club during the hectic post-war years.

Col. Dowbiggin wished both recipients the best of luck, and they in turn thanked all the members and remained over the "good old times."

Alan Thirlwell Wins British Amateur Golf

Sandwich, May 1.
Alan Thirlwell of Gosforth, a 25-year-old clerk, staged a dramatic recovery to beat 46-year-old Harry Bentley of Hesketby by two and one in the 36 holes final of the England Amateur Golf Championship at the Royal St. George's course here today.

Thirlwell had been three down after 27 holes, but squared at the 28th and then went ahead for the first time at the next hole. The 34th was halved and then Thirlwell won the next to take the title.

Reuter

Carruthers Retains World Title With Points Verdict Over Thai**20,000 Honest People**

Horsford, May 2.
A newspaper here yesterday published the results of Australian soccer games 90 minutes before coupons forecasting their outcome were due at the office of a charity soccer pool.

"Not one of our 20,000 patrons tried to trick us as far as we know," said an official today.—China Mail Special.

LITTLE "MO" IN TWO FINALS

Wiesbaden, Germany, May 1.
Maureen "Little Mo" Connolly of the U.S. and Inge Pohmann of Germany today moved into the women's single finals of the international Wiesbaden tennis tournament.

Maureen defeated Mrs Alvene-Rigolot of Switzerland 6-0, 6-2 in the first semi-final.

In the second semi-final match, Miss Joan Curry of England, 7-6, 6-3.

In the men's singles, Lennart Bergelin (Sweden) and German Davis Cup player Ernest Buchholz moved into the finals.

Buchholz defeated the self-exiled former Yugoslav player Milan Branovic, 6-4, 6-2 in the semi-finals.

Bergelin defeated Engelbert Koch of Germany, 2-0, 6-2, 6-4 in the second semi-final match.

In the mixed doubles, Mauren and Koch defeated Fanny Ten Bosch (Holland) and Ulfie

Bangkok, May 2.
Fighting in pouring rain and bare feet, Jimmy Carruthers of Australia tonight successfully defended his world bantamweight title against Chamroen Songkitrat, a Thai police lieutenant, the man credited with an "atomic punch."

The fight went the full distance with Carruthers winning on points. But towards the end at his corner where his wife Myra was, one of his seconds was not without anxiety, the Thai having reopened his old eye wound in the 10th round. Referee Bill Henneberry assessed the result as "a narrow margin" of seven rounds to five.

More than 60,000 had gathered in the Stadium when heavy rain fell.

At the weigh-in earlier in the day, both men scaled 117½ lbs. Because of the slippery ring surface created by the rain, both men were allowed to fight in bare feet.

King Phumiphon of Siam and Queen Sirikit and many diplomats watched the fight.

Gate money was roughly £100,000, slightly more than was expected.

Both men were worried in the opening round by the wet surface, but Carruthers, taking advantage of his Western training, avoided Songkitrat's terrific right. As the round ended, Songkitrat came in with a hard right to the chin.

Both weaved and bobbed in the second round, Carruthers concentrating on body blows and Chamroen landing another right. A second right seemed to worry the Australian. Carruthers thereafter kept his distance, darting blows at the head. The round ended with a hard right to Songkitrat's jaw.

BLEW UP

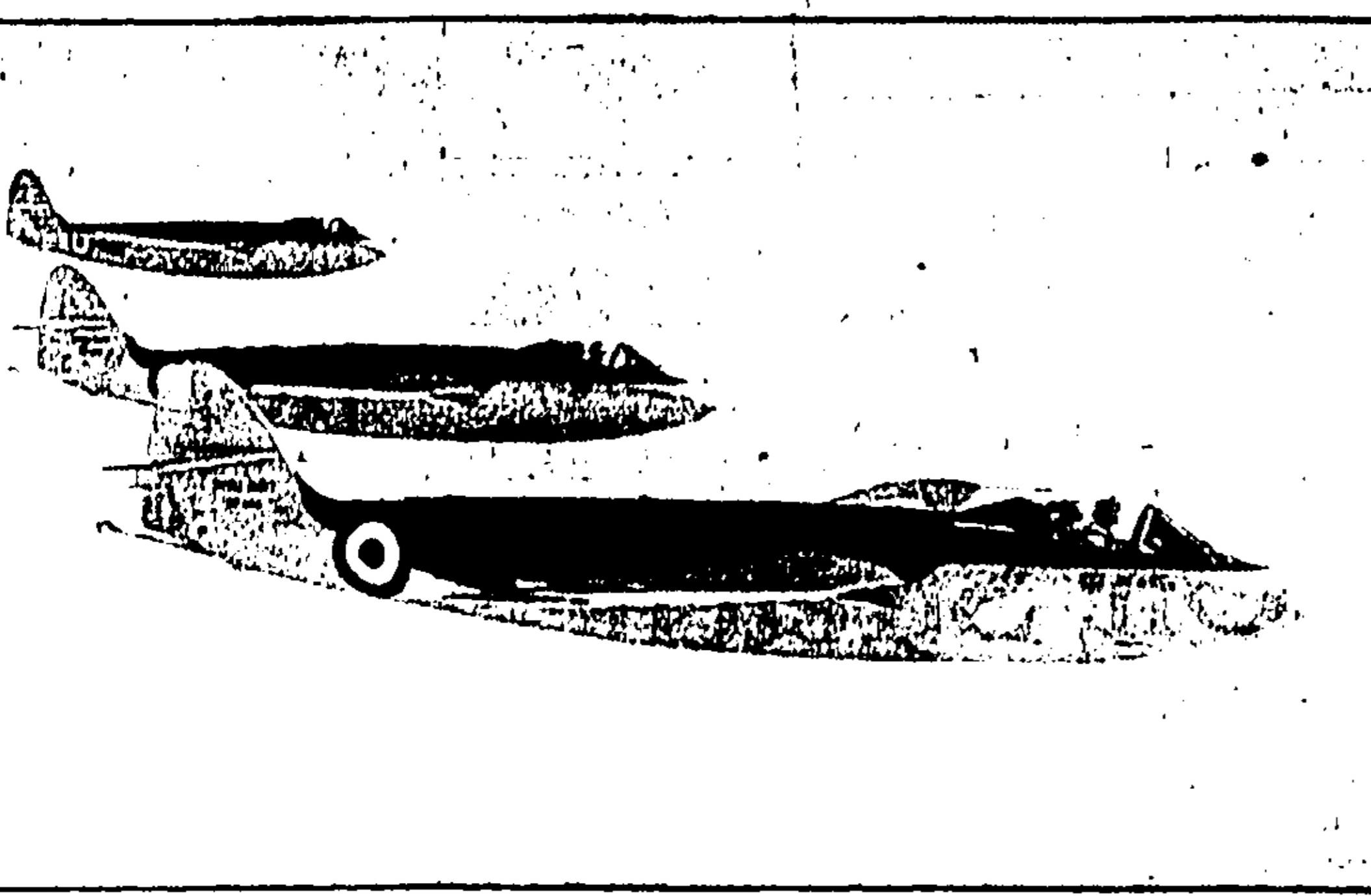
The fight was temporarily stopped in the third round because a ringside lamp blew up scattering glass on the ring surface.

Carruthers continued to jab away to the body with his right, but the Thai closed in and landed heavily on the head. Carruthers was evidently intent on wounding the Thai. There was little between them at the end of the third round.

The fourth round was quiet until Carruthers swung in with

Singapore Routed At Soccer**Army Triumph In Triangular Athletic Meet****Army****Triumph****In Triangular****Athletic Meet**

SEA HAWKS ON PATROL DUTY



A new photograph from London showing three Hawker Sea Hawks on patrol over the North Sea.

Latest Round-Up of Aviation News From Britain

He Claims His Invention Will Solve Comet Disaster Mystery

This week's round-up of aviation news tells you the effect the recent Comet crash and the suspension of Britain's new jetliners have had upon the makers, De Havilland and the operators. B.O.A.C. De Havilland experts have gone to Paris to examine a new apparatus developed by a French inventor which the designer claims will pierce the mystery of the Comet disasters; there is another item on an "electric blanket" developed by British experts to prevent icing on aircraft and also extracts from the recent Government White Paper on defence announcing new policy for air warfare. The "Round-up" comes to you from London weekly—an exclusive China Mail feature.

An apparatus recently taken off the secret list and claimed to be capable of piercing the mystery of the Comet disaster has been perfected by a team of French engineers.

The de Havilland Company, it is reported in Paris, has asked one of its representatives in France to see the inventors, whose leader is M. Jean Turck, a 43-year-old research engineer.

The device is described as a copy of instruments which record the working of various parts of an aircraft in flight. Details are transmitted by radio to a recording machine on the ground.

Uncertainty about the future production rate of Comet II jet

airliners is now causing some anxiety. Deliveries of these planes to the British Overseas Airways Corporation were to have begun shortly.

The first Bristol Britannia propeller-turbine airliners are unlikely to go into service with the British Overseas Airways Corporation until 1955. If the output of Comet II is slowed down, the Corporation will be seriously short of airliners in the immediate future.

The possibility that further modifications to Comets will be found necessary, after the investigation of recent accidents which are now being made, must naturally affect the production rate of Comet II.

Meanwhile, the B.O.A.C. fleet of airliners has been seriously depleted by the withdrawal of airworthiness certificates from the Corporation's remaining six Comet IIs, and by the decision to sell its Handley Page Hermes piston-engined airliners.

43 Airliners

The fleet available for operating B.O.A.C. services throughout the world now consists of only 43 airliners. These are 10 American Stratocruisers, 11 American Constellations and 22 Canadairs, known in Britain as Argonauts.

A progressive transfer of employees from the production of Comet and restriction of overtime working were announced the other day by Short Brothers and Harland, Belfast. The Belfast works were building about 10 Comets IIAs, of which the first was due for delivery this summer.

A statement on similar lines has also been made by the Havilland Aircraft Co., designers of the Comet.

This said that problems set by accidents to Comet IIs had caused adjustments in the programme of work in do Havilland factories. There would be less overtime in certain departments for the time being, and other rearrangements of production might be necessary.

Japanese Decision

Japan Air Lines said recently in Tokyo that it had asked the do Havilland company to delay delivery of two Comet IIAs till 1955 owing to financial difficulties. The planes were to have been delivered in March, 1955.

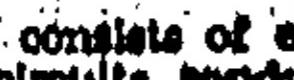
A spokesman of the airline emphasised that this was not due to the recent Comet accidents. "We made the decision long before the accidents occurred," he said. Japan still intended to use Comets and was merely putting off buying them for the time being.

More Ships In Service

Airlines and shipping companies will be offering more accommodation than ever before. New ships available this year include the King George, 21,000 tons, of the Swedish American Line, and the Olympia, 22,079 tons, of the Greek Line.

Later this season there will be the Saccio, 22,000 tons, of the Cunard Line, and the Cristoforo Colombo, 29,180 tons, of the Italian Line.

This rubber "blanket" is tailored to fit round the sensitive



A new-type "electric blanket" has been developed by British air experts to prevent icing on aircraft. The system consists of electric heating circuits sandwiched between layers of synthetic weather-proof rubber.

This rubber "blanket" is tailored to fit round the sensitive

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

'FREE STERLING' MOVE GATHERS MOMENTUM Wider Limits For Exchange Rates Imminent

From Our Own Correspondent

London, May 2.

Although only a month has passed since the Treasury announced the extension of the transferable account system for Sterling and the reopening of the London gold market, yet another move towards complete freedom for the pound is believed to be imminent.

The process of "setting the pound free" will, we now know, be a gradual one and the advantage of this mode of advance over the more dramatic "dash for freedom" is that it gives the authorities opportunity to test the ground ahead before making the next step forward.

And if convertibility is linked with a floating exchange rate—as many authorities on the subject believe it must be—the next logical stage in the process should be the widening of the limits within which sterling is allowed to fluctuate on either side of the official rate of US\$2.80 to the pound.

At present limits are fixed at two cents either way. That is to say, dealings in sterling are permitted to the London foreign exchange market within the price range of \$2.78 and \$2.82 to the pound. British authorities keep a close watch on the market and intervene whenever necessary to keep prices within those limits.

What gives strength to current rumours that the widening of the margins is being contemplated is the fact that official intervention has recently been necessary to keep sterling from rising above the upper limit of \$2.82. If the authorities wish to see how sterling will behave under conditions of greater freedom for the foreign exchange market now is clearly a good time to initiate the experiment.

This could be done on a modest scale even under the present International Monetary Fund rule which forbids member countries to permit exchange rate of their currency to fluctuate by more than one per cent on either side of the official parity. In the case of sterling this means the permitted "ceilings" price against the dollar could be raised slightly to \$2.82½.

Indeed the reopening of the London gold market was such an unqualified success that "The Economist" was recently able to comment: "After a fortnight of freedom the market can fairly claim to have become for and away the most important international market in gold. Most of the dealing in continental markets have been eliminated and business that used to be transacted in Amsterdam, Zurich and other centres is now being done in London."

What better encouragement could the British authorities have for another move towards a completely free pound?

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$420,022. Noon quotations and the morning's dealings—

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

DANKS HK Bank ... 1,650

East Asia ... 170

INSURANCES Union ... 500 860

DOCKS, ETC. K. Wharf ... 100 6 00

Dock ... 10,000 17,40

Provident (O) ... 12,500 12,000

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000 12,00

1000

